Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes 05/02/12

Present: Mitch Pietras, Dustin Weeks, Andrea Reese, Doug Giacobbe, Alice Godbey, Ray Cornelius, Michael Flota, Jessica Kester, Shana Deyo, Christel Saylor, Sara Desormeaux, Kathleen Lazarus, Casey Blanton, Vickie Brown, Emma Brombin, Rebecca Block, Ben Graydon

Mitch Pietras called the meeting to order.

Bill Tillard: gave an after action review of planned emergency drill that took place on 4/12/12 - armed person on campus. Also, we have a new emergency notification company, Rave - all employees should have received an email to update emergency contact information via text, landline phones, email.

Dustin Weeks: presented a proposal for Faculty Senate reorganization. The faculty is now so spread out over the campuses, and some departments never have representation at meetings. See Dustin’s presentation (http://popplet.com/app/#/295428) for an outline of current concerns and proposed reorganization, which would create representatives from every department. All faculty would be represented by a senator, the senators would vote based on consensus from their constituents. Any faculty member would still be able to appear and make proposals. All meetings will be recorded. The new proposal would also establish clear guidelines for referendum votes. It would provide that a larger group than just the officers is responsible for doing the work. The proposed reorganization should give Faculty Senate more authority as part of college governance, due to higher validity of the representative structure.

Most community colleges use this structure. We can use some of these as models for suggestions. All meetings open to everyone. Dr. Eaton expressed support for this early in fall semester.

Problems in the past: mostly chairs, path to administration...need to do it differently this time. Need to market it correctly as well. Senators have responsibility to be communicators.

Proposed timeline: exploratory committee meets over summer, looks at models, best practices, comes up with options and suggestions, meet during fall planning to get input...would not kick in until fall 2013.

Motion by Dustin Weeks: “I move that an ad-hoc Faculty Senate Reorganization Committee be formed to explore and propose revisions to the current Faculty Senate Bylaws in order to make the Daytona State College Faculty Senate an elected, representative body.” The motion was seconded.

Discussion: non senatorial faculty can still serve on FS committees, participate. Mitch has visited a couple of branch campuses so far, those he has spoken to are very supportive. He is also going to Seminole State to look at their representative FS system.

If you are interested, volunteer for the ad hoc committee!!

Vote: carried unanimously.
Mitch Pietras: Fall planning is August 15-17. Faculty Senate will meet after the president’s welcome.

Kudos to Ray Corneli for setting up Adobe Connect! All meetings next year will be thus, and recorded for after-meeting availability on the Florida Online Faculty Senate page.

A proposal for a sabbatical program has been prepared by a planning council committee, and now they are looking for faculty input.

The Academic Freedom and Responsibility policy was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Next week, please vote on proposed changes to bylaws. These changes update the officer election process. This is unfinished business that needs to be wrapped up.

Openings for college wide tenure and promotion committee AND curriculum committee have to be filled. Mitch will send an email with openings. Tenure and promotion is a TWO year obligation. If you are up for promotion in your second year, don’t volunteer and then quit after one year.

Michael Flota: tenure and promotion revision committee update - still going to work on revisions suggested in voting, all still welcome to join. Pilot program for new system - 18 out of 21 eligible for tenure have opted in to the pilot program for the revised process for this fall.

No smoking policy: The policy approved by Faculty Senate, which was a campus-wide smoking ban, was voted down by the Board of Trustees. Kathleen Lazarus suggests reconstitution of committee to come up with a policy that the board will accept. Enforcement is an obstacle. Campus Safety will only enforce a specific policy; they need to be the ones to enforce it, not faculty.

Christel Saylor: presented a proposal for a policy banning smoking within 50 feet of any building. (The wording is the same as the policy that the board rejected, except that the smoking ban is replaced with the 50-foot rule.) Moved and seconded. Vote: 15 yea, 2 nay.

There will be a meeting of the new officers next week.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Owens, Immediate Past Secretary, Faculty Senate